Natural Resources Commission Meeting

Policy Committee on Wildlife and Fisheries

January 10, 2019
Proposed Orders

• For Action – NRC
  – Pure Michigan Hunt Name Change (Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 1 of 2019)
  – Deer Feeding Exception on Beaver Island (Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 2 of 2019)
NRC Policy Committee on Wildlife and Fisheries

- Fisheries Chief Update
- Wildlife Chief Update
  - Elk Season Update
  - Deer Feeding Exception on Beaver Island
Fisheries Winter Work

- Equipment maintenance
- Fish aging
- Report writing
- Work planning (3 years out)
- Management prescriptions
- Regulations
- Meetings
Fisheries Regulations Review

- Historically: 50 Fisheries Orders
- Consolidated to 30 since 2008
- Since 2011: ~ 460 regulation changes
- 70% provided additional angling opportunities
- 2-year guide & regulation process failed
F.O. 200: MH 2 update

- Angler catch information: January
- Model regulations and meet with constituents in February
- Develop report/recommendations for March NRC meeting
- If required, Information item April, Action in May
Thank you!
Wildlife Chief Update

• Summary of Fall 2018 Hunting Seasons
• Thumb APR Survey Update
Thank You
Elk Season Results

Chad Stewart, Deer and Elk Management Specialist
Wildlife Division
January 10, 2018
2018 Late Elk Season Summary

• Hunt Period 2:
  – December 15-23

• Weather was favorable
  – Favorable conditions with slightly less snowfall than normal.

  – License Quota: 100
  – 30 any elk
  – 70 antlerless only elk
Elk Harvest – Late Season

• Hunt Period 2 Harvest
  – State hunter harvest: 78 legally harvested elk
    • 30 antlered bulls
    • 37 cows
    • 11 calves
    • 83% success (94 hunters)
  – Three illegal takes (2 bulls taken on antlerless tags, one cow taken on private land w/ out permission)
  – Tribal harvest: 13 elk
    • 4 bulls, 9 cows/calves
Early Hunt Harvest Map
Late Hunt Harvest Map
2017 Total Elk Season Summary

• Hunt Period 1 Harvest:
  – State hunter harvest: 69 legally harvested elk
    • 28 bulls, 41 cows/calves; 69% success

• Hunt Period 2 Harvest:
  – State hunter harvest: 78 legally harvested elk
    • 30 bulls, 48 cows/calves; 83% success

• Tribal Harvest: 16 elk

• All 3 Pure Michigan hunters successful

January Hunt is not recommended
Upcoming and Continued Activities
Thank You

www.michigan.gov/elk
Beaver Island Feeding Exception

Chad Stewart, Deer Management Specialist
Wildlife Division
January 10, 2019
Background

• Per WCO 3.100 (a)
  – Effective January 31, 2019, it shall be unlawful for a person to engage in deer and elk feeding within zone 2 and zone 3.

  – Request from Beaver Island Wildlife Club for an exception to allow recreational feeding
CWD Status on Beaver Island

• Not detected
  – 2015-2016 - 0 samples received
  – 2017 - 1 sample received
  – 2018 - 21 samples received

• Commitment from BIWC to continue testing deer if exemption is applied
Surveillance

• No population level data from Beaver Island
• Harvest approximately 100 deer (+/- 20)
• For testing with 95% confidence:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>0.5%</th>
<th>3.0%</th>
<th>10%</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>31</td>
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Thank You

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